

**Summary of Drug Calculation Policies
Of BSN Programs at Selected AACN Member Nursing Programs*
(For use in CON Faculty Forum 2/3/06)**

Institution	Special Notes	Type of Test, When Given, and Pass Rate	Related Instruction and When/Where Delivered	Number of Attempts, Remediation, and Withdrawal Requirements
University of Rochester	Students hold BS in another field	C-Net medication exam at end of first semester covering drug calc, methods of safe admin, and medication knowledge) : passing referred to as “successfully complete	Content/skills covered in concurrent courses of Fundamentals, Pathophysiology, and Pharmacology	Given 2 chances with C-net, then 2 attempts with NLN test, must complete remedial work before NLN retake and must meet with education learning specialist before last retake
University of Texas Tyler		Medication exam (teacher-made) at beginning of each clinical course: passing is a grade of 90—did require 100 but changed to 90 because that is expectation of hospitals for new hires		Given 2 chances; if not successful on 2 nd attempt, required to withdraw; must petition to return subsequent semester; remediation by faculty occurs before 2 nd try
University of Mass Boston	Traditional and RN students	Safe Admin of Medication Exam (SAME) prior to beginning of classes each semester	Pediatric calculations are added in the Peds course and included on exam before Community Health (last semester)	Given 3 chances first semester;, given 2 chances in subsequent semesters, if not successful, are withdrawn from clinical courses, must sit out while seek remediation. If the student is preceptored in an agency that requires a drug calc test, students must take and pass according to agency policies
Prairie View A&M University	Testing is done prior to 12 th day so student is not penalized financially and has no documentation on transcript	Drug calculation test given at beginning of first clinical experience; pass is defined as 94%; In subsequent semesters, students are tested in learning in previous semesters, again with 94% pass	Incoming students receive instruction on basic medication calc	Given 3 attempts first semester; given 2 attempts in subsequent semesters. If unsuccessful, is withdrawn from clinical and corequisite courses, may re-register following semester. Tutoring and other resources offered during semester out of program.
University of Rhode Island	Students are allowed calculators	Faculty-developed drug calculation test given within first 2 wks of class in each clinical	Refers students to academic enhancement center	Number of attempts not specified; Must retest within 2 wks; If not successful by midterm, not allowed to return to clinical and must repeat entire course and

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	during tests but tests are timed.	course; passing defined as 85% or higher. If pass on first attempt, earns 3 points toward final grade	for tutoring services	follow a planned remediation process
Johns Hopkins		Initial test before being permitted to administer meds in clinical setting and again half-way through semester. Pass rate is 90%.	Student get a review packet before 1 st test and fac. mbr provides a class review. Half-way through semester, fac. mbr provides 2 ½ hour class	Fac. Mbr that provides initial class meets with students individually for additional tutoring and there is an interactive online tutorial that is available throughout the semester. Did not address # of attempts or indicate implications if students were unsuccessful.

*Source: Responses to listserv query for input through AACN Organizational Leadership Network, January, 2006.